

State Senator **Kevin Shibilski**

TO:

Members of the Senate Environmental Resources Committee

FR:

Senator Kevin Shibilski

DATE:

February 21, 2002

RE:

Senate Bill 419

Good afternoon Chairman Baumgart and members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, I would like to thank you for holding a public hearing on Senate Bill 419. This bill is the product of months of work between myself, Representative Gunderson, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association.

One of the greatest joys in this life is passing along our family traditions to our children. This rings even truer with our hunting tradition. This legislation will give bear hunters in our state a wonderful opportunity to pass along our traditions to our sons, daughters, nieces, and nephews. Not only will this make the hunting season more enjoyable for our bear hunters, it will provide additional opportunities for young people to become acquainted with their natural environment.

Senate Bill 419 represents a carefully drawn compromise that all parties involved should be proud of. Once again, thank you for taking the time to hold this public hearing and hope you will all support this legislation.



Wisconsin Wildlife Federation

2036 W. 9TH AVENUE, OSHKOSH, WI 54904 • (920) 235-9136 • 1-800-897-4161

AFFILIATED WITH NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

February 21, 2002

State of Wisconsin Senate Hearing Madison, Wisconsin

Re: SB-419 "Transfer of Bear Kill Permit to Youth @ time of application"

The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation "WWF" wishes to express strong support in favor of SB-419. The WWF represents 35 district clubs, 18 affiliate organizations and some 10,000 members throughout Wisconsin. This includes a wide variety of interest groups in support of hunting, fishing and other recreational activities in Wisconsin's great outdoors. Our membership includes conservation clubs, rod and gun clubs, field trial organizations, bird and game breeders, muzzleloaders, sport fishing, hunter's education, waterfowl organizations, trappers, taxidermists, sporting dogs and deer and bear organizations.

The WWF works within a committee structure and has had several opportunities to review and discuss SB-419 and the companion bill AB-759. After committee review and with unanimous support this issue was further discussed at our recent WWF Board Meeting held in Stevens Point, Wisconsin on February 9th, 2002. The issue of transfer of the kill permit at time of application or at time of kill drew the most discussion. The Wisconsin Wildlife Federation's vote was unanimous in favor of the bill as written with the kill permit transfer at time of application.

The WWF and the outdoors enthusiasts of Wisconsin thank this committee for the opportunity to be heard and trust that you will help carry forward the long-standing hunting traditions established by our ancestors.

Respectfully Submitted,

camers & Weis how

James G Weishan

President

(Message delivered by: Mr. Jerry Knuth, 1st Vice President-WWF)

911 - 4th Street, Plover, Wisconsin 54487

muth@g2a.net